



# COTTESMORE SCHOOL



As usual Cottesmorsians have applied their boundless energy to academic study, sport, hobbies and activities. However there is always time to pause and reflect; our Chapel services at Harvest Festival and Remembrance Sunday in particular provided opportunities for stillness and to appreciate all that we have.

## *School News*

Forty four pupils across both Prep and Pre-prep, along with six new members of the academic staff received a warm Cottesmore welcome in September, enabling them to quickly settle in to the rhythm of a new school year.



## *Sports Round-Up*

A packed fixture card has yielded some very impressive successes from our teams. This term has seen a great many fixtures at all levels for the girls in both Hockey and Netball. The senior boys produced a sound set of results in Football and Rugby this term with some excellent wins.



Senior Football had an impressive season winning 27 of the 30 matches played. 1st XI Boys won 11 and drew 1 of their games this season, leaving them on an unbeaten sheet, the team was captained by Monty. Otto scored 17 goals and received the Golden Boot.



In November and December, rugby teams had a great start to the season, with all senior

teams winning their first matches. The U13 had an exciting win against Handcross Park.

The girls finished a successful Hockey season competing in the UKSA Hockey Tournament at Marden Sports Ground and were silver medalists in the Plate.



1st Girls started the season off well, they had an epic win over Brambletye in a well contested match finishing 16-15. They enjoyed another success when The Downs School, Malvern, visited in November.

The Swimming teams fitness and level of determination is quite simply unrivalled by any other team in the county. The juniors have been successful in galas against Copthorne, Handcross and Brambletye.

Real Tennis has become very popular with lessons taking place every Thursday in Petworth. The team look forward to the Godfrey Racquet Tournament in May.

Well done to the Cottesmore Equestrian Team who proudly represented Cottesmore School at the annual Inter Schools Team and Individual Show Jumping Competition at Hickstead Showground at the end of September. The event attracted over 130 horse and rider combinations, with 20 schools putting forward riders. The show consisted of three classes with jumping heights ranging from 45cm to 90cm.



Cottesmore School Equestrian Team were outstanding and won all three classes. There was also an individual win for Lara in Class 1, Dougie took 1st and 2nd in Class 2 and Mia was just beaten into 2nd place in Class 3. Genevieve and Douglas finished in the top 10. Congratulations to the Cottesmore School Equestrian Team: Dougie, Mia, Douglas, Lara and Genevieve.



## *Charity Support*

### *Odd Socks Day 2024*

Odd Socks Day 2024 as part of Anti-bullying Week.



## *Chapel and Music News*

Plenty of new singers have joined the choir to replace those who went on to their senior schools in the Summer. There have been a number of performances at Friday Exeat services, with the Admission of Choristers service being particular noteworthy. The term ended with a fantastic Carol Service in which the choir performed very well indeed.

## *The Play*

This year's senior play at Cottesmore School was a wonderful adaptation of Alice in Wonderland, written by Jason Pizzarello and based on Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass. The performance was a collaborative effort that involved almost every top-year student in some capacity, whether on stage, designing and painting sets, playing a musical instrument, singing, or supporting behind the scenes with lighting and crew.



The production was brought to life with immense creativity and skill thanks to the dedicated efforts of both students and staff. Mrs. Dolman, once again, designed a stunning array of colourful costumes that brought the characters to life while also guiding the cast in portraying their roles with enthusiasm and flair. Mrs. Ashton, along with her talented art scholars and helpers, created a visually captivating stage that perfectly captured the whimsical world of Wonderland. Mrs. Baird's choreography added a beautiful touch of ballet, tap, and other dazzling dance moves to the performance.





A special thank you goes to Miss Yeates, who took on the challenging role of guiding the students to truly embody their characters. Her focus on acting techniques helped the students move beyond simply reading lines and instead gave them the confidence to perform with authenticity and passion. In addition, other staff members like Finn and Miss Curl were instrumental in supporting the cast throughout the rehearsal process.

### *Pre-prep News*

The Pre-prep children have had an exciting and busy term, welcoming in many new families to Cottesmore. The children have been introduced to many new topics this term including geographical learning about the UK, historical learning about the Stone Age, scientific learning about space (with a visit to the South Downs Planetarium) and learning about how to make a positive impact in our local environment. Our new Reception children have explored the topic of People Who Help Us and have settled well into school life. The Harvest Assembly and the Nativity Play performances were delightful, allowing the children to demonstrate their confidence and enjoyment in singing and acting.



### *Fun Activities and Sundays 'in'*

This term at Cottesmore we have had a busy and energetic Sunday programme. We have had trips out to Brighton Pier, trampoline parks, Tough Mudder and ice-skating rinks, as well as using the beautiful grounds we have to host laser-tag, giant inflatables, and zorbing activities. In addition to the big trips, we have also introduced the inaugural Cottesmore Champions League; an in-house Football tournament which is running throughout the year and which involves over 75 percent of our boarding community! It has been a very successful and fun term with plenty of new and exciting experiences on the horizon in the New Year.







## *Amberley Museum*



## *Staff News: Salvete and Valete*

Miss Lauren Commins joined the secretarial team this term. She is responsible for organising exeat and holiday travel arrangements.

We are very glad to welcome Mrs Kathryn Macdonald into the Pre-prep as our new Year 2 teacher while Mrs Naomi Holland is absent on maternity leave.

We will be saying a fond farewell to The Gappies, Gabby, Prue, Amy and Keenan, who will be returning to Australia.

## *The Courtauld Gallery*



## *School Trips Gallery*

### *Tate Modern*





## TERM DATES – LENT TERM

Wednesday 8 January	Term starts	17.30
Friday 17 January - Sunday 19 January	Weekend Exeat begins Weekend Exeat ends	16.00 18.30
Friday 31 January - Sunday 2 February	Weekend Exeat begins Weekend Exeat ends	16.00 18.30
Friday 14 February - Sunday 23 February	Half Term begins Half Term ends	16.00 19.00 (No Chapel)
Friday 7 March	School Concert Exeat begins	14.00 16.00
Monday 10 March	Exeat ends	19.00 (No Chapel)
Wednesday 26 March	End of Term	11.00



Happy New Year  
From the Cottesmore Team